

## CLAIMS

1. Use of a peptide which binds to a lipopolysaccharide (LPS) or lipoteichoic acid (LTA), for manufacturing a pharmaceutical composition for treating sepsis or septic shock, wherein the peptide comprises the amino acid  
5 sequence of apolipoprotein CI (apoCI) or a part thereof that comprises at least the amino acids of the C-terminal helix of apoCI.
2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the peptide comprises the amino acid sequence of human apoCI or a part  
10 thereof that comprises at least the amino acids of the C-terminal helix of human apoCI.
3. Use according to claim 2, wherein the peptide is human apoCI or a fragment thereof that comprises at least the amino acids MREWFSETFQKVKEKLK.
- 15 4. Use according to claim 3, wherein the peptide is human apoCI having the amino acid sequence  
TPDVSSALDKLKEFGNTLEDKARELIS RIKQSELSAKMREWFSETFQKVKEKLKIDS.
5. Use of a peptide which binds to lipopolysaccharide (LPS) according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein a  
20 pharmaceutical composition is manufactured for preventing or treating a sepsis or septic shock caused by Gram-negative bacteria in mammals, in particular humans or a domestic animal, such as horse, cow, dog and cat.
6. Use of a peptide which binds to lipoteichoic acid (LTA) according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein a  
25 pharmaceutical composition is manufactured for preventing or treating a sepsis or septic shock caused by Gram-positive bacteria in mammals, in particular humans or a domestic animal, such as horse, cow, dog and cat.
- 30 7. A pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating sepsis or septic shock, which composition

comprises a peptide as defined in one or more of the claims 1-4 as well as a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8. A method for preventively treating a mammal, in particular human individual, which, for instance as a result of a surgical intervention or a weakened immune system, is at increased risk of developing sepsis, wherein to the mammal an active amount is administered of a peptide as defined in one or more of claims 1-4.

9. A method for treating a mammal, in particular human individual, which suffers from sepsis or septic shock, wherein to the mammal an active amount is administered of a peptide as defined in one or more of claims 1-4.

10. A method for determining the severity of a septic condition and making a prognosis for the further course of the sepsis or septic shock in a mammal, in particular human individual, which suffers from sepsis or septic shock, wherein the apoCI content is determined in a blood sample of the mammal.

11. A method for monitoring a treatment of sepsis or septic shock in a mammal, in particular human individual, which is being treated for sepsis or septic shock, wherein the apoCI content is determined in a blood sample of the mammal.